

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 00455 050658Z

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-15 /032 W

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R 030640Z MAR 76 ZFG

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 890

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

UNCLAS SOFIA 0455

STATE FOR CU/ARTS; BELGRADE FOR USIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, BU

SUBJECT: LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA (LAPO)

1. "SOFIA CONCERT" HAS FINALLY PROVIDED ITS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BELGRADE-SOFIA TRANSPORT OF LAPO PERSONNEL AND PROPERTIES.

2. RECOMMENDATION FOR PROPERTIES IS TO LOAD THEM ONTO "SOFIACONCERT" TRUCK (FULLY ENCLOSED, SPECIALLY FITTED) IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING DEC 3 CONCERT IN BELGRADE. TRUCK WOULD PROCEED EITHER THAT NIGHT OR NEXT MORNING (AT LAPO'S OPTION) TO SOFIA (ABOUT SIX-HOUR DRIVE). "SOFIACONCERT" WOULD ARRANGE WITH "JUGOCONCERT" FOR TRUCK TO BE SEALED BY YUGOSLAV CUSTOMS AT BELGRADE CONCERT HALL AND WITH BULGARIAN CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES FOR TRUCK TO BE UNSEALED AT SOFIA CONCERT HALL, AVOIDING CUSTOMS CHECKS AT BORDER. LAPO PROPERTIES SUPERVISOR MAY TRAVEL ON TRUCK.

3. RECOMMENDATION FOR PERSONNEL IS FOR SPECIAL FIRST-CLASS CARS TO BE ADDED TO REGULARLY SCHEDULED TRAIN DEPARTING BELGRADE 0936 DEC 5, ARRIVING SOFIA 1818. BUSES WOULD MEET TRAIN AND TRANSFER PERSONNEL TO HOTELS. ?9 9*8-- CONCERT" WOULD ARRANGE WITH "JUGOCONCERT" FOR BOX LUNCHES, FOR WHICH LAPO PERSONNEL WOULD PAY.

4. "SOFIACONCERT" POINTS OUT TRUCK TRANSPORTATION OF PROPERTIES REDUCES HANDLING TO ABSOLUTE MINIMUM AND UNCLASSIFIED

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PROVIDES ADEQUATE TIME LEEWAY, IN CASE OF INCLEMENT

WEATHER. FURTHER, SINCE BELGRADE-SOFIA HIGHWAY IS MAJOR INTERNATIONAL ROUTE, IT RECEIVES HIGH PRIORITY IN SNOW REMOVAL, SANDING, OTHER MAINTENANCE. TRAIN TRAVEL FOR PERSONNEL ELIMINATES ANY PROBLEMS WITH WEATHER. EMBASSY CONCURS IN THESE RECOMMENDATIONS.

5. "SOFIACONCERT" HAS SELECTED AS PROGRAM FOR FIRST CONCERT (DEC 6): IVES "THREE PIECES," MOZART SYMPHONIA CONCERTANTE, MAHLER FIRST SYMPHONY; FOR SECOND CONCERT (DEC 7): BRAHMS FOURTH SYMPHONY, COPLAND THIRD SYMPHONY.

6. TO PIN DOWN HOTEL REQUIREMENTS, "SOFIA-CONCERT" ASKS ASAP (A) NUMBER OF DOUBLE BEDS (COUPLES); (B) ABSOLUTE MINIMUM AND DESIRED MINIMUM NUMBER OF SINGLE ROOMS; (C) FIRM FIGURE OF TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONNEL. FLEISCHMANN PROMISED THESE FIGURES LAST FALL.

7. "SOFIACONCERT" ASKS (A) IF FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY WILL BE PERMITTED DURING CONCERTS; (B) IF DRESS/ACOUSTIC REHEARSAL WILL BE OPEN TO PRESS (CRITICS OR PHOTOGRAPHERS), STUDENTS OR MUSICIANS. "SOFIACONCERT" ALSO ASKS IF DECISION HAS BEEN MADE ON TELEVISIONING CONCERTS, ON EITHER LIVE OR DELAYED BASIS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SOFIA00455
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760084-0312
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760399/aaaadjfr.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUN 2004 by fisherem>; APPROVED <16 DEC 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA (LAPO)
TAGS: OEXC, BU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006